

## **ABSTRACT**

### **ZERO INSERTION FORCE HIGH FREQUENCY CONNECTOR**

A connector or connector assembly having a signal array having at least one shielded conductor having opposite ends and including an axial conductive element and an outer conductive element surrounding the axial conductive element and a compressible interface element positioned at least one of the opposite ends of the signal array, the interface element including a layer of insulating material having a plurality of conductive elements extending through the insulating material layer. When compressed between the signal array and a signal bearing component, the compressible interface element maintains the geometric arrangement of the axial conductive element and the outer conductive element to the signal bearing component.

A connector assembly may include a circuit board including land areas arranged in a shielded configuration, and corresponding to the shielded land areas on the component and a second compressible interface element. The compressible interface element is coupled between the circuit board and the shielded conductor to pass a signal from the shielded conductor to the land area on the second circuit board.